

Message Text

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S/S -MR. GAMMON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK IMMEDIATE

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TOPOL 6

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (PORTER, WILLIAM J.)

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORT NOVEMBER 12, 1973

1. MARVIN KALB--CBS--RADIO--FROM PEKING: AMERICAN OFFICIALS CONFIRMED TODAY THAT PEACE TALKS BETWEEN ISRAELIS AND THE ARABS WILL START IN GENEVA IN EARLY DECEMBER. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER WHO MID-WIFED THE AGREE-MENT BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES WILL ATTEND THE OPENING ROUND OF THEIR TALKS. THAT IS NOT YET FIXED BUT THE SECRETARY WAS EXPECTED TO BE IN WESTERN EUROPE AT THAT TIME ANYWAY PICKING UP HIS NOBLE PEACE PRIZE FOR THE VIETNAM NEGOTIA-TIONS IN OSLO ON DECEMBER 10TH. A QUICK TRIP TO GENEVA SHOULD NOT BE TOO MUCH OF A PROBLEM. HE SEEMS TO HAVE FOR PARTICIPANTS ISRAEL, JORDAN, SYRIA PLUS THE US AND RUSSIA AS THE PRIME BIG POWER MOVERS. JUST HOW THE PALESTINIAN LIBERATION MOVEMENT FITS IN IS NOT YET CLEAR. EVERYTHING OF COURSE DEPENDS ON WHETHER THE CEASEFIRE ALONG THE SUEZ CANAL HOLDS AND OFFICIALS HERE WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER SAY IT IS HOLDING AND LOOKS PROMISING.

2. MURRAY FROMSON--CBS--RADIO FROM MOSCOW: TITO WANTS TO PRESERVE HIS ROLE AS A BROKER IN THE ME, BUT THE RUSSIANS WANT TO MAINTAIN THEIR LEVERAGE TOO AND WHETHER THEY WILL UNCLASSIFIED

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GO ALONG WITH TITO WON'T BE CLEAR UNTIL THEIR TALKS IN KIEV

HAVE ENDED. THE SOVIETS ARE UNEASY ABOUT THE WAY THEY HAVE BEEN SHOULDERED ASIDE BY CAIRO AND DR. KISSINGER. THEY HAVE BEEN VIRTUAL OUTSIDERS TO THE COMPROMISE WORKED OUT HARDLY HAD A WORD TO SAY ABOUT THE AGREEMENT SIGNED BY EGYPT AND ISRAEL BUT ITS POSITION ALL ALONG HAS BEEN THAT ANY CEASEFIRE SHOULD BE PROCEEDED BY AN ISRAELI COMMITMENT TO WITHDRAW TO THE OCTOBER 22ND LINE, THAT IS NOT IN THE LANGUAGE OF THE AGREEMENT. THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT SOVIET DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITIES, ARAFAT THE GUERRILLA LEADER IS SAID TO BE ENROUTE TO MOSCOW AND HE MAY BE COMING HERE TO DISCUSS A SOVIET PLAN TO CARVE A PALESTINIAN STATE OUT OF THE JORDANIAN WEST BANK AND THE GAZA STRIP. THERE ARE RECURRING RUMORS THAT MOSCOW IS ALSO EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH SAUDI ARABIA FOR THE FIRST TIME AND THAT RESUMPTION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND EGYPT MAY NOW JUSTIFY A SOVIET MOVE TO THE SAME WITH ISRAEL.

3. FROM PEKING: THE SECRETARY MET MAO FOR TWO HOURS TODAY. AMBASSADOR BRUCE ACCOMPANIED AND THUS HAD HIS FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO MEET THE CHAIRMAN. NO DETAILS OF THE DISCUSSION ARE AVAILABLE.

4. JAPANESE PRESS SERVICES HAVE BROKEN THE NEWS THAT THE SECRETARY IS TO VISIT SOUTH KOREA. RUSH

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